

# MARITIME ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIST (ME)



## FORCE NOTES

February 2010



Rating Force Master Chief: MECM Gordon Muise  
[Gordon.J.Muise@uscg.mil](mailto:Gordon.J.Muise@uscg.mil)

"A" School Chief: MECM Randy Krahn  
[Randy.L.Krahn@uscg.mil](mailto:Randy.L.Krahn@uscg.mil)

Course Writer & SWE Writer: MECM Steve Lowry  
[Steven.J.Lowry@uscg.mil](mailto:Steven.J.Lowry@uscg.mil)

**Official disclaimer:** This newsletter is for the sole purpose of passing information to those within the Maritime Enforcement specialist rating. The material contained within is not for record purposes nor represents any Coast Guard official policy. Questions, comments, things of interest may be sent to: [Gordon.J.Muise@uscg.mil](mailto:Gordon.J.Muise@uscg.mil)

GREETINGS:	1
PROBLEM WITH THE NEW ME2 PQG:	2
ME A SCHOOL:	2
WEAPONS PETTY OFFICER (WPO):	3
ANNUAL VERIFICATION FOR WEAPON POSSESSION:	4
EPME TASK 12-8.03:	4
TRAVEL:	5
USEFUL LINKS:	5
HAVE A NICE DAY! BE SAFE OUT THERE!	5

## GREETINGS:

Most of you probably heard about the Coast Guard's proposed budget for FY2011. The budget includes a plan to decommission five major cutters and to decommission five Maritime Safety and Security Teams. The total number of ME billets that could be lost is 118, but there is a proposal to reprogram 34 billets to LEDETS resulting in a loss of 84 billets. You can read the All Hands message at: [http://www.uscg.mil/comdt/all\\_hands/message47.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/comdt/all_hands/message47.asp) Remember this is a proposed budget, and hasn't been approved by Congress. No need to speculate about future year's closers, as it is well above our control and too far into the future. We still are looking for additional billets to reprogram to ME. There are many billets being looked at for reprogramming opportunities, but nothing that is a

sure thing. There have been few minor changes (additions, deletions), but that happens with every rating. Current strength is at 98%. Before they added in the support billets we were at 105%.

### ***RESERVES –PROVISIONAL MEs:***

Read ALCGRSV 009/10 for guidance about your Provisional status.

### ***PROBLEM WITH THE NEW ME2 PQG:***

ALCOAST 054/10 announced the release of the new Performance Qualification Guides (PQG) for ME1 and ME2. Many of the courses have already been mailed out before a problem was discovered. The ME2 PQG, Pamphlet 3 - Training and Admin, had an error with the cover (misabeled as AT/FP) and had an E6 EPQ as the third portion of that pamphlet instead of the E5 EPQ. The pamphlet was corrected and reprinted, and sent to the CG institute for distribution. There were no problems with the ME1 PQG. To order the new course materials see your ESO or you can download the material from the following link:

<https://learning.uscg.mil/portal.asp>

You will need to schedule with your ESO to take the End of Course Test (EOCT). The EOCT cannot be taken on the Learning Portal.

**Reminder:** EPQs and PQGs (rating courses) are connected and are required to be completed together prior to taking an EOCT.

### ***ME A SCHOOL:***



I had the privilege of being at the start up of the first ME “A” School class. I spent two days observing the classes, talking to students and staff. They are a very enthusiastic group of students and instructors. There were nine active duty members and 15 reserve members. You can see pictures of the first class in action at the following link: <http://cgweb.mlca.uscg.mil/mlea/index.php>

The students are put through a rigorous physical fitness program. I recommend those with orders to ME “A” School start a work-out program prior to getting to the school (hopefully you are already doing that). The first day you will have to challenge the Boat Crew/Boarding Officer Physical Fitness Standard. Though it is

not a prerequisite to attend the course, I highly I recommend you arrive at the school ready to meet or exceed the standard. You will have to meet the standard to graduate the course. Four students failed the first attempt, but have made great progress since then. Two students did extremely well; both came in under 9 minutes in the run and exceeded the number of required sit ups & pushups. Three members were not in compliance with Coast Guard Weight/Body Fat standards. Two quickly came into compliance and the other is making progress. The students have an extensive weapons training program that they go through. They need to qualify on the pistol, shotgun, & M-16, plus Judgmental Use of Force to graduate ME "A" School. So far all have passed the Basic Pistol and the Practical Pistol Courses. Next challenge is the rifle. The students will graduate on 15 April.

### ***WEAPONS PETTY OFFICER (WPO):***

Those currently performing the duties of WPO take note of the recent policy changes:

R 011311Z MAR 10 ZUI ASN-AM1060000029  
FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-7//  
TO ALCOAST  
BT

UNCLAS //N08370//

ALCOAST 094/10

COMDTNOTE 8370

SUBJ: ORDNANCE MANUAL POLICY CHANGE

A. ORDNANCE MANUAL, COMDTINST M8000.2 (SERIES) 1. OVERVIEW: THIS ALCOAST ANNOUNCES THE CHANGES TO THE WEAPONS PETTY OFFICER AND SAI RANK/RATE POLICIES, POST ME RATING STANDUP.

2. BACKGROUND:

A. REF A REQUIRES UNIT WEAPONS PETTY OFFICER (WPO) TO BE AN E-5 OR ABOVE UNLESS A GUNNERS MATE (GM) IS ASSIGNED. SOME UNITS HAVE A GM3 ASSIGNED AS WPO WHO HAVE LATERALED TO MARITIME ENFORCEMENT SPECIALIST THIRD CLASS (ME3), AND THEREFORE NO LONGER AUTHORIZED TO ACT AS WPO IAW REF A.

B. REF A ALSO STATES THAT A GM3 TO GMC MAY ATTEND SAI SCHOOL, ALL OTHER RATES MUST BE E-5 TO E-7.

3. ACTION: EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO REF A APPLY:

A. IF A UNIT WPO WAS A GM3 WHO LATERALED TO ME3, THAT MEMBER MAY CONTINUE TO ACT AS THE UNIT WPO UNTIL PERMANENTLY TRANSFERRED FROM UNIT.

B. THE ME RATING IN PAYGRADES E-4 THROUGH E-7 ARE ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND SAI SCHOOL. ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS TO ATTEND SAI SCHOOL REMAIN IN EFFECT.

4. THESE CHANGES WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE NEXT REVISION TO REF A.

5. COMDT (CG-7211) POCS ARE GMCS ED WARD (202) 372-2347 AND CWO JOHN MCDANIEL (202) 372-2030.

6. RELEASED BY RDML VINCENT B. ATKINS, ASSISTANT COMMANDANT FOR CAPABILITY.

7. INTERNET RELEASED IS AUTHORIZED.

BT

NNNN

Currently there isn't any formal training to be a WPO, other than what is included in the GM "A" School. Otherwise it is all OJT. There was a Front End Analysis

(FEA) conducted to determine if there is a need for some kind of training course for new WPOs. The results are not available yet. Those headed to a WPO billet need to get familiar with the Ordnance Manual, COMDTINST M8000.2D.

Enclosure (9). Inspections and Checklists will be very helpful for you. Two very helpful job aids for you are the Unit Small Arms Checklist and the weapon Petty Officer (WPO) Evaluation can be found in Enclosure (9).

The following Navy course would also be helpful to you.

AMMO SUPPLY ADMINISTRATION

[http://www2.tracenet.aluma.com/tqc/cschool\\_selectC.asp?c=15&cc=501971](http://www2.tracenet.aluma.com/tqc/cschool_selectC.asp?c=15&cc=501971)

Course Code: 501971

Duration: 12 days

How to Apply: Submit Electronic Training Request via Direct Access

This course is Navy run so seats are on a first apply basis.

### ***ANNUAL VERIFICATION FOR WEAPON POSSESSION:***

Commandant Instruction 10100.1, dated Apr 14, 2009

Coast Guard Policy on the Possession of Firearms and/or Ammunition by Coast Guard Military Personnel

[http://cgweb.comdt.uscg.mil/CGDirectives/CI/CI\\_10100\\_1.pdf](http://cgweb.comdt.uscg.mil/CGDirectives/CI/CI_10100_1.pdf)

This instruction provides guidance and direction to comply with the requirements imposed by the Lautenberg Amendment to the Gun Control Act of 1968. The amendment makes it a felony for any person convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence to ship, transport, possess, or receive firearms or ammunition. It also denies perpetrators access to weapons for the duration of a restraining order. The instruction requires all members to complete DD form 2760 upon reporting to a unit and at least annually. Commands may require any member to complete and sign the form upon demand. Being eligible to carry a weapon is a condition of employment within the ME rating.

### ***EPME TASK 12-8.03:***

**“REVIEW** your Rating Enlisted Performance Qualifications and submit recommended changes to your Rating Force Master Chief, as presented in the E-PME Study Guide.”

I don't plan to list all the requirements of the task, but I do want to emphasize a couple of key items. There are 7 elements that need to be addressed within Task **12-8.03-P**. There are 91 tasks within the ME EPQs. For each of the 91 tasks there are questions that you need to address. So this is not a task that can be completed in 20 minutes, it will take a lot of time to do it correctly. Your input is valuable in keeping the ME EPQs current and relevant to what what duties MEs are

performing in the field. Also by reviewing the EPQs for the rating it will greatly benefit you as a leader. The more you know about your rating the better you will be able to lead and guide your people.

**I will be tracking all members (AD & Res) that submit me their review of the rating.**

### ***TRAVEL:***

My trips are not as fast paced as they were leading up to the ME Lateral Panel. Prior to the ME Lateral Panel I felt like a traveling insurance salesman. Now I able to spend a little more time with units to see the great things our MEs are doing in the field. It also gives me a chance to interact with more of the crew and command. Recently GMCM Munoz (GM RFMC) and I traveled to the San Diego, CA area. We got a chance to spend time with Sector San Diego, CGC Petrel, CGC Chase, MSST San Diego and PACTACLET. CDR Telfer and his crew from the TACLET played host to us for a whole day. Though they had a lot going on, it was nice of them to find time to explain their operations to us. One team was getting ready to deploy to Haiti for a Force Protection mission. On another trip I spent 3 days with PSU 309 while they were in Tampa, FL for their ADT. My time was split between field ops training and boat crew training. The last week of this month I will be visiting units in the Alameda, CA area. I have 2 trips next month to MLEA in Charleston, SC.

### ***USEFUL LINKS:***

<https://cgportal.uscg.mil/lotus/myquickr/me/welcome> Central location for information dealing with the ME rating.

<http://cgweb.mlca.uscg.mil/mlea/index.php> MLE Academy

<http://www2.tracenpetaluma.com/tqc/cschool.asp> TQC School listings

<https://usmap.cnet.navy.mil/usmapss/static/usmap.jsp> USMAP

Please share these Force Notes with your shipmates!

G.J. Muise, MECM  
Maritime Enforcement Specialist  
Rating Force Master Chief  
(202)372-1319

***HAVE A NICE DAY! BE SAFE OUT THERE!***